DARK HORSE COMICS
ONE-SHOT
LEONIDE THE VAMPYR
Miracle at The Crow's Head
MIKE MIGNOLA
RACHELE ARAGNO
DAVE STEWART

LEONIDE THE VAMPYR™

Miracle at The Crow's Head

A small, coastal village is home to normal people living quiet and simple lives—until a shipwreck brings a small coffin and its smaller occupant into their midst. What begins as a miracle soon takes a turn toward the horrible in this ghostly tale from celebrated *Hellboy* creator Mike Mignola and artist extraordinaire Rachele Aragno (*Mel the Chosen*)! The first issue of a new series of stories, *Leonide the Vampyr* is shiveringly spectacular.

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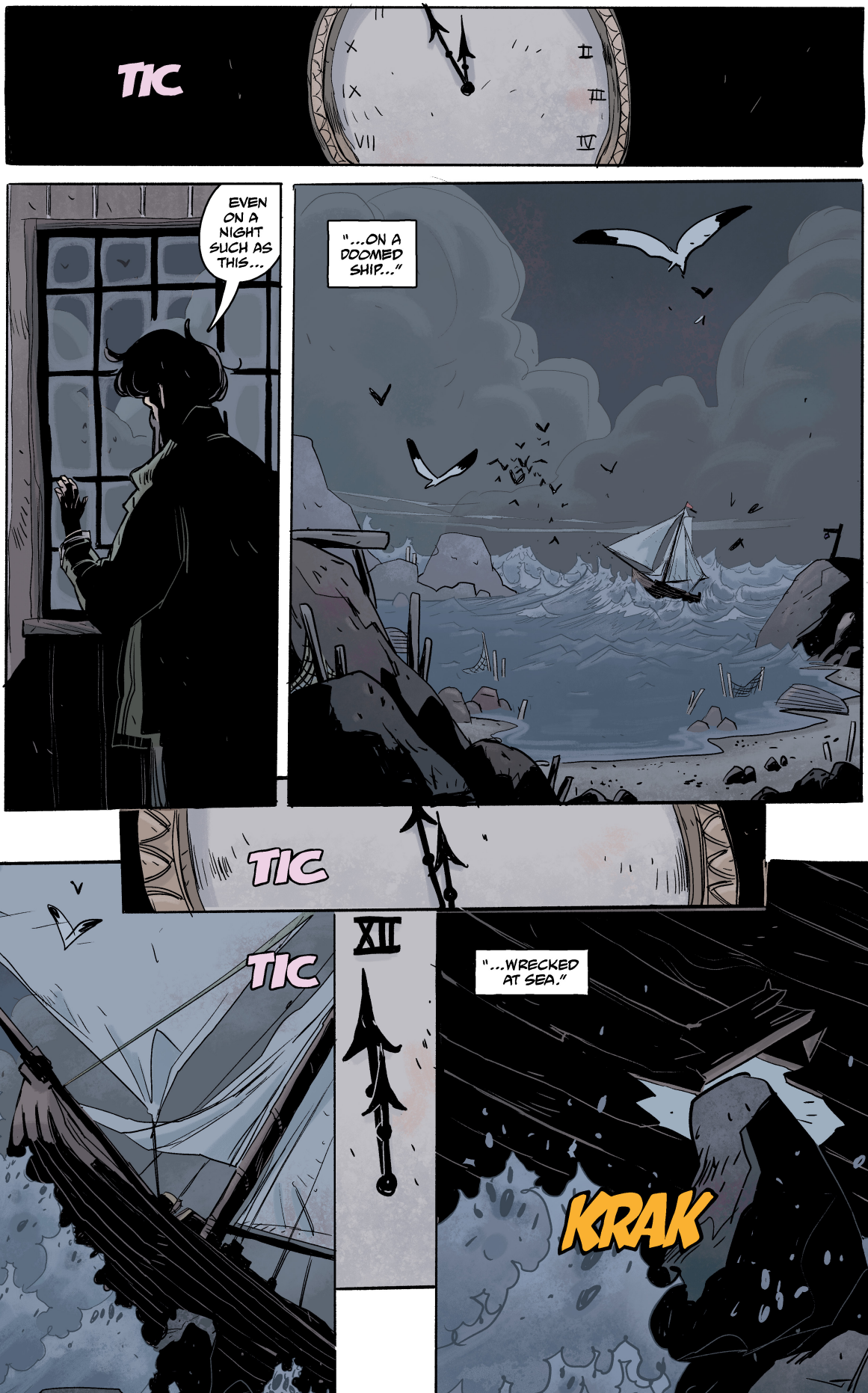
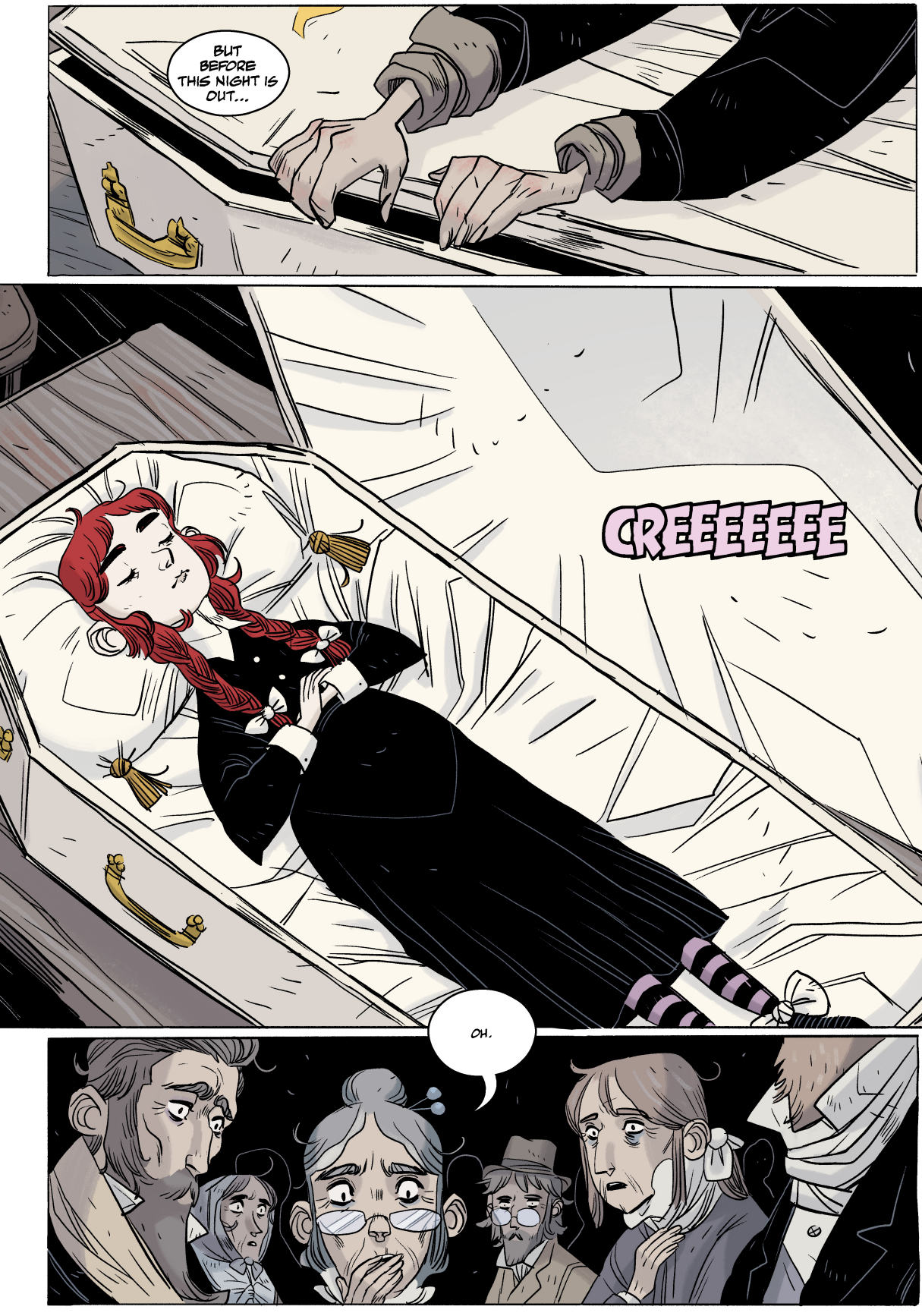
A LONG TIME AGO IN A VILLAGE OLD AND CRUMBLING, ALL BUT FORGOTTEN...
...A DREARY PLACE, BATTERED BY WIND AND WAVES, ALL HER PEOPLE MOVED AWAY OR BROKEN, WORN OUT, AND OLD...

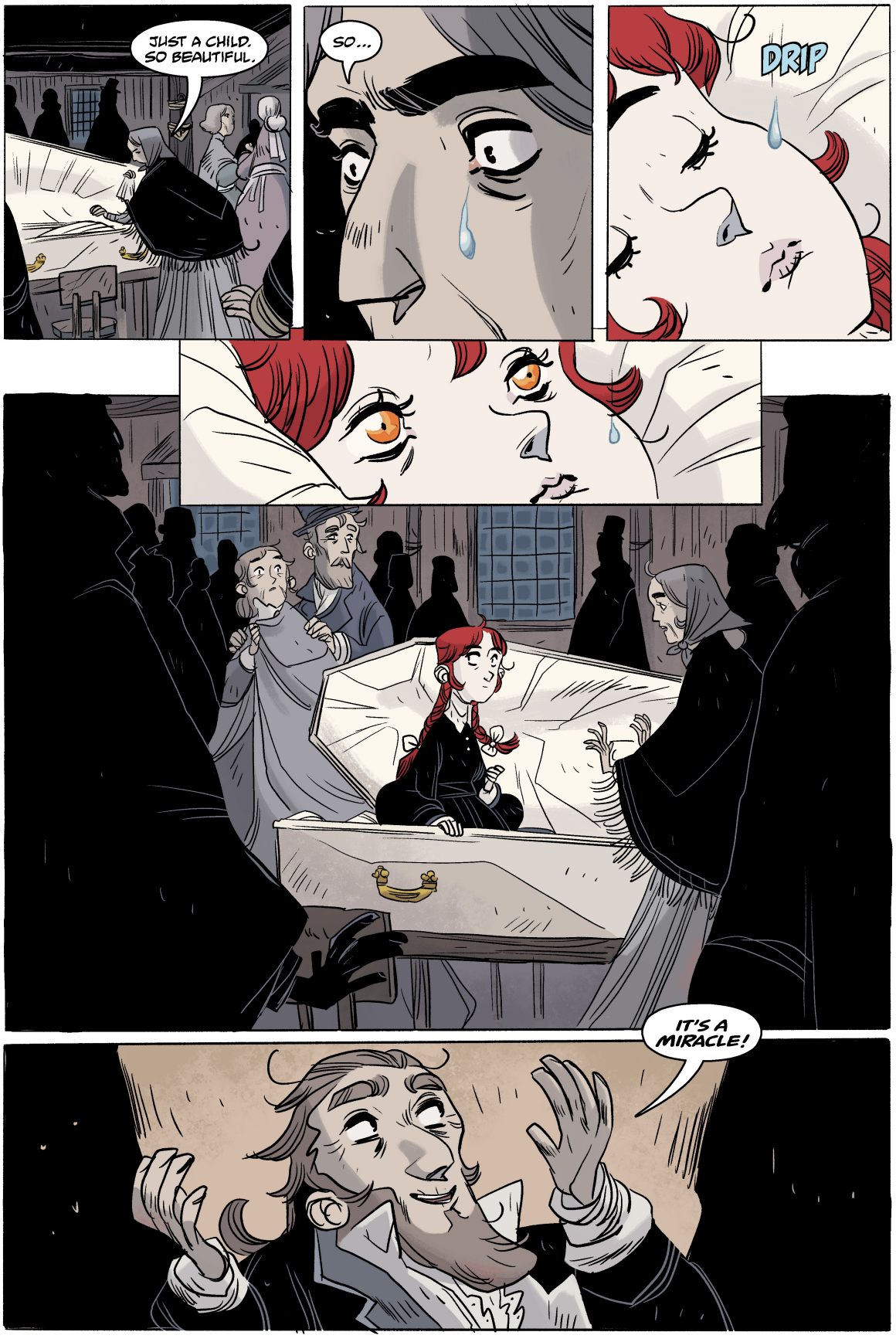
ONE NIGHT, UPSTAIRS AT THE CROW'S HEAD, THE INNKEEPER SAID TO HIS WIFE...
The Crow's Head
I LONG FOR DEATH, FOR I NO LONGER REMEMBER WHAT IT FELT LIKE TO BE YOUNG.
THAT'S AN ILL WISH.
THEN I WISH FOR ONE MORE HOUR OF THOSE GREENER DAYS.
FOR ME, I SAY DEATH WILL COME TOO SOON...
TIC
...FOR ALL MY THOUGHTS NOW ARE FOR THOSE WASTED YEARS. I WANTED TO SEE THE WORLD, BUT NEVER STRAYED FAR FROM HOME.


TIC
EVEN ON A NIGHT SUCH AS THIS...
"...ON A DOOMED SHIP..."
TIC
TIC
XII
"...WRECKED AT SEA."
KRAK

GOOONG
THE WHOLE CREW LOST.
IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME.
ALL DROWNED.
BUT THERE! WHAT--?

LEAVE IT.
I HAVE A BAD FEELING--
NO.
LET US TAKE IT INSIDE, AND IN THE MORNING SEE IT DELIVERED TO THE CHURCH.
HERE AT LEAST IS ONE POOR SOUL WHO WILL HAVE A PROPER BURIAL.
SPEAK TO ME OF SOULS?
I HAVE NONE.
LEONIDE

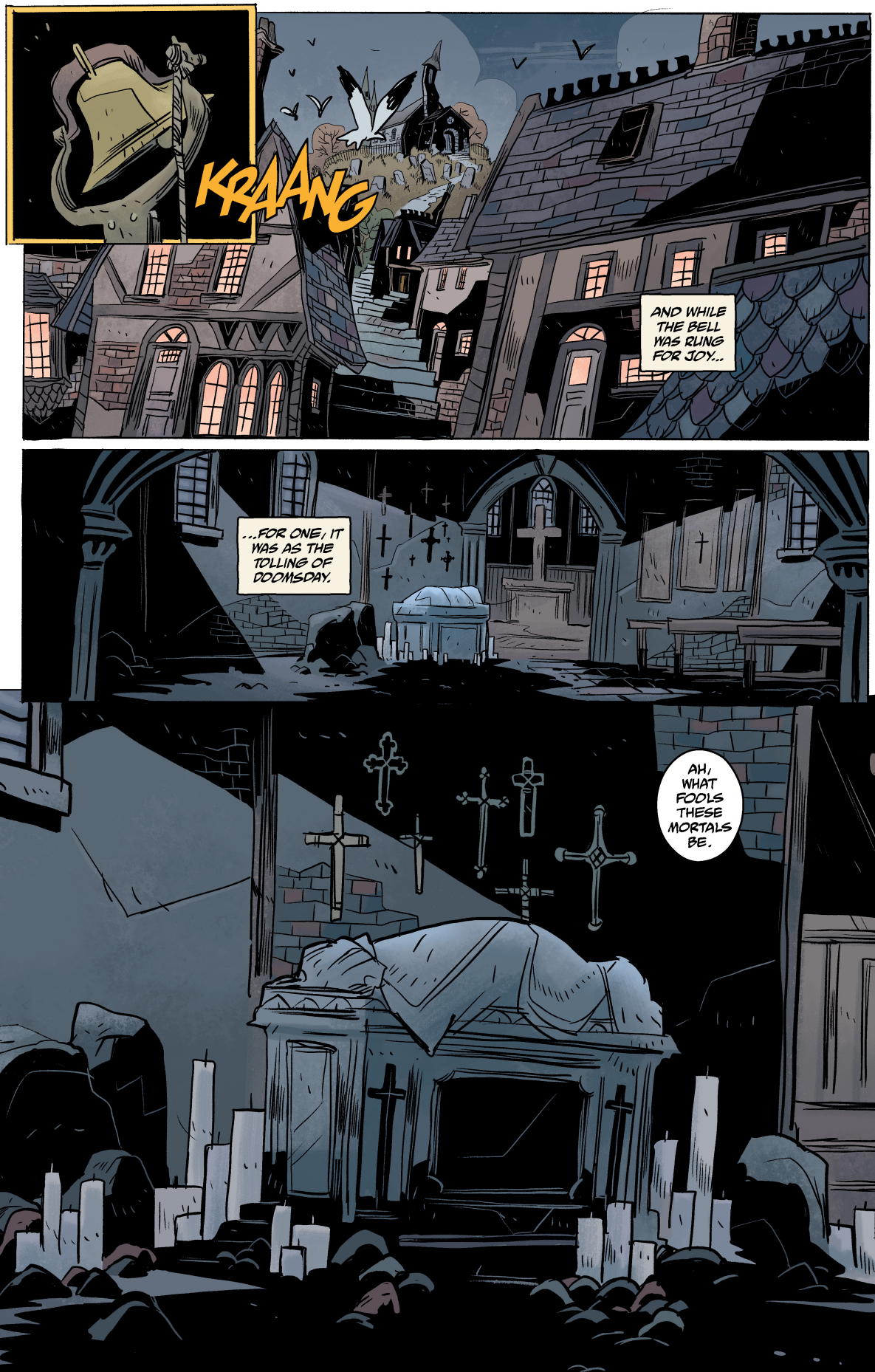

BUT BEFORE THIS NIGHT IS OUT...
CREEEEEEE
OH.

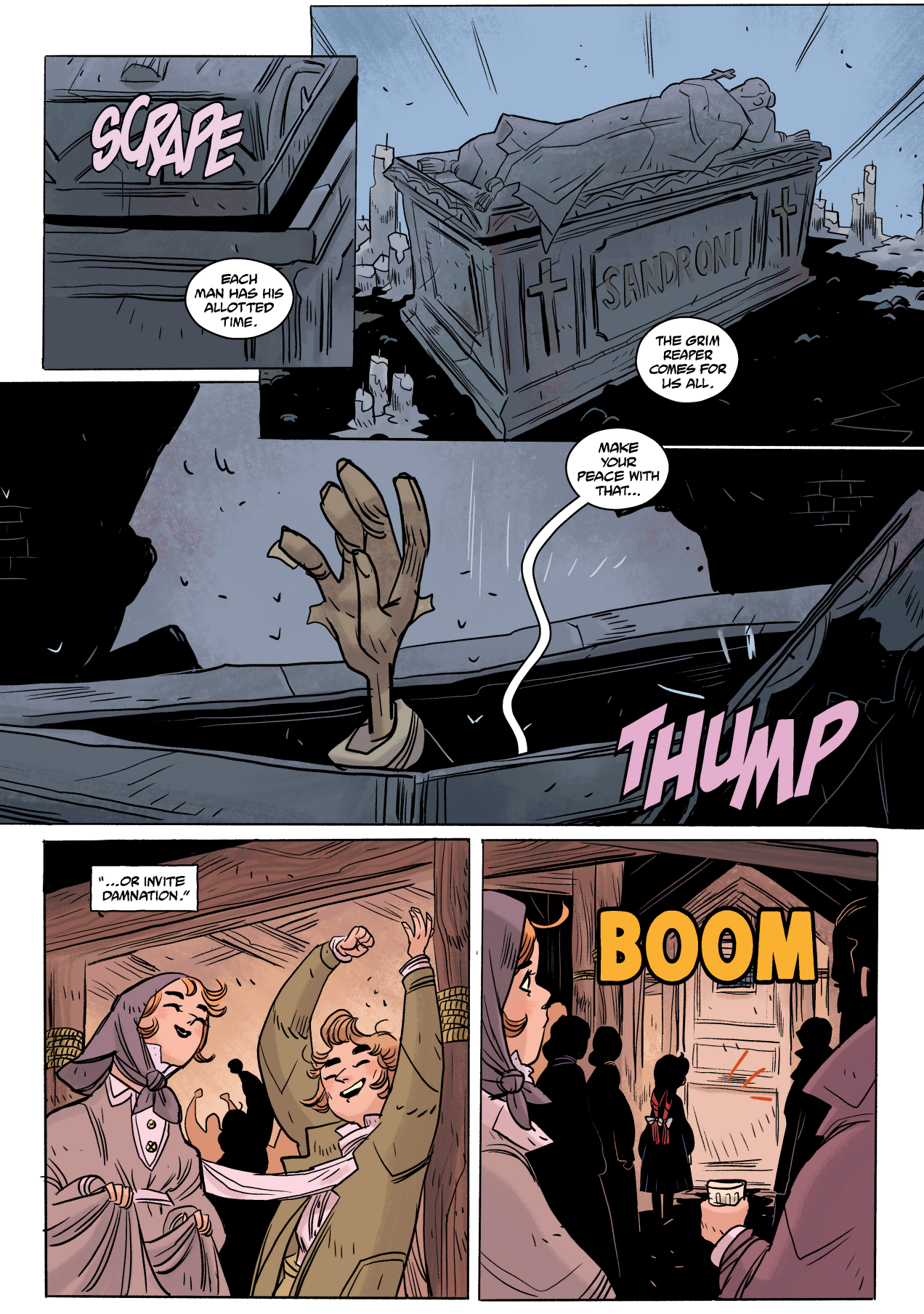

JUST A CHILD. SO BEAUTIFUL.
SO...
DRIP
IT'S A MIRACLE!

LET'S DRINK TO IT!
AND THEY DID, THOUGH THE INNKEEPER WOULD HAVE SWORN THE WINE HAD ALL RUN OUT YEARS AGO.
CLINK
CHILD, HOW IS IT--?
HUSH.
DO NOT QUESTION WHEN A FAIR WIND BLOWS...

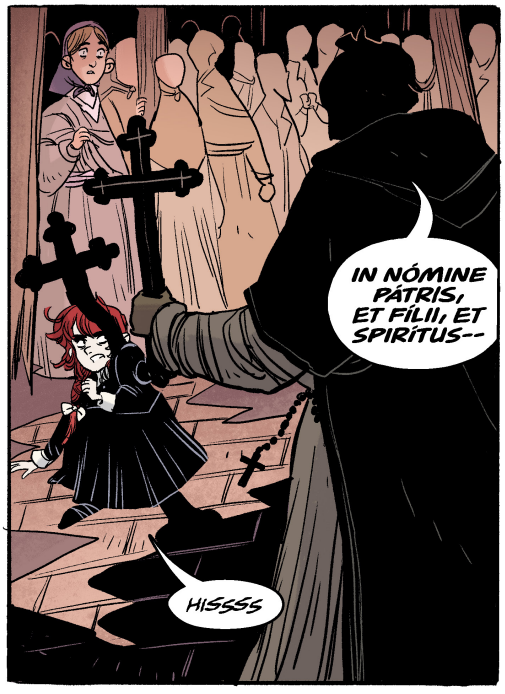
"ONLY CELEBRATE."
AND THEY DID.
AND FOR A WHILE--A LITTLE WHILE--IT WAS LIKE THE YEARS MELTED AWAY, AND IT WAS LIKE SOME LONG-GONE SPRING HAD COME AGAIN...

LIFE...
LOVE...
HOPE...
BANISH NIGHT!
RING THE OLD BELL!
FOR NEW DAYS TO COME!
KRANG

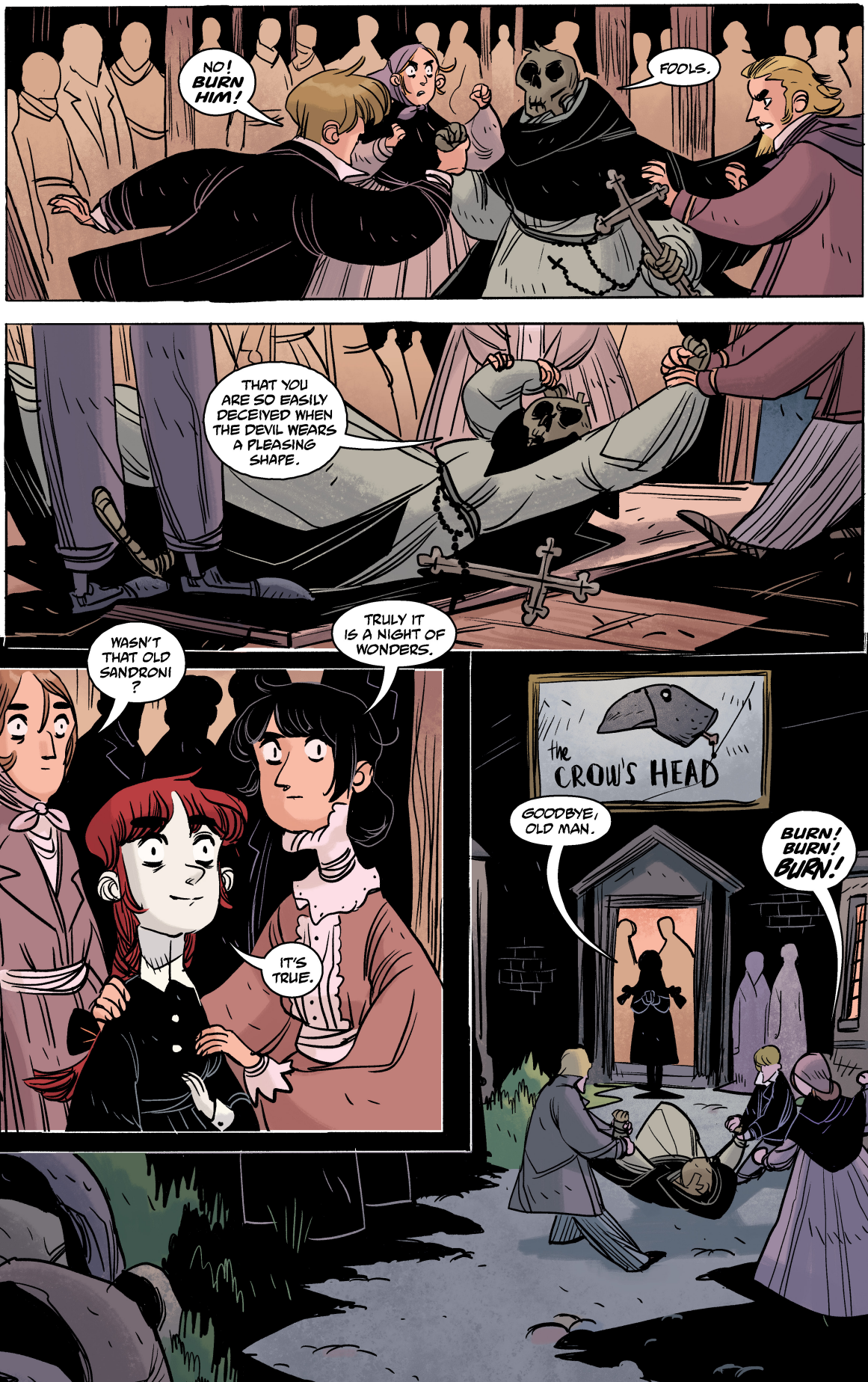

KRAANG
AND WHILE THE BELL WAS RUNG FOR JOY...
...FOR ONE, IT WAS AS THE TOLLING OF DOOMSDAY.
AH, WHAT FOOLS THESE MORTALS BE.

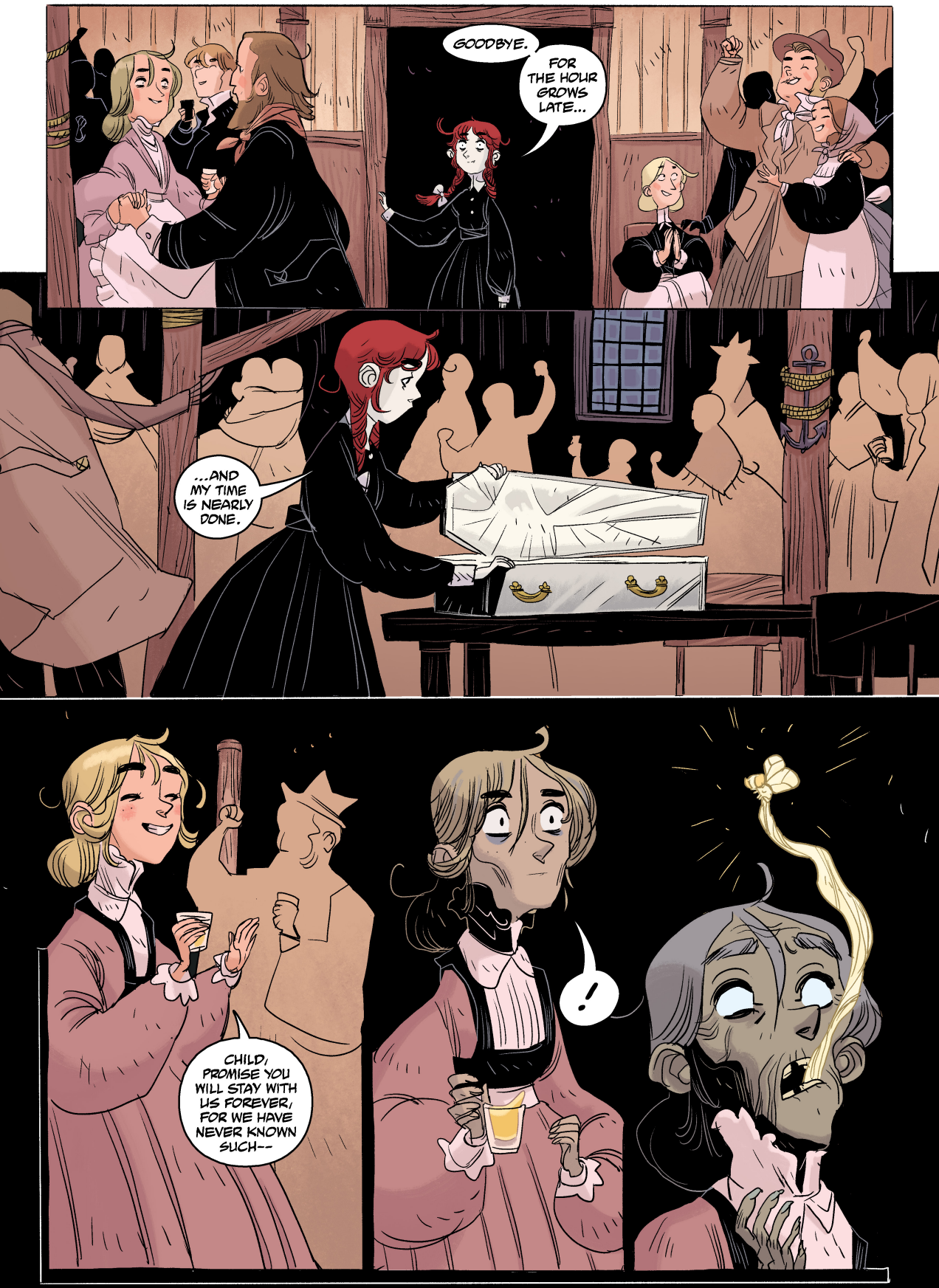

SCRAPE
EACH MAN HAS HIS ALLOTTED TIME.
SANDRONI
THE GRIM REAPER COMES FOR US ALL.
MAKE YOUR PEACE WITH THAT...
THUMP
"...OR INVITE DAMNATION."
BOOM

EXSÚRGAT DEUS ET DISSIPÉNTUR INIMICI EJUS, ET FÚGIANT QUI ODÉRUNT EUM A FÁCIE EJUS.
SICUT DÉFICIT FUMUS DEFÍCIANT, SICUT FLUIT CERA A FÁCIE ÍGNIS, SIC PÉREANT PECCATÓRES A FÁCIE DEI.
GOD THE FATHER COMMANDS YOU! THE SON OF GOD COMMANDS YOU! THE HOLY GHOST COMMANDS YOU!

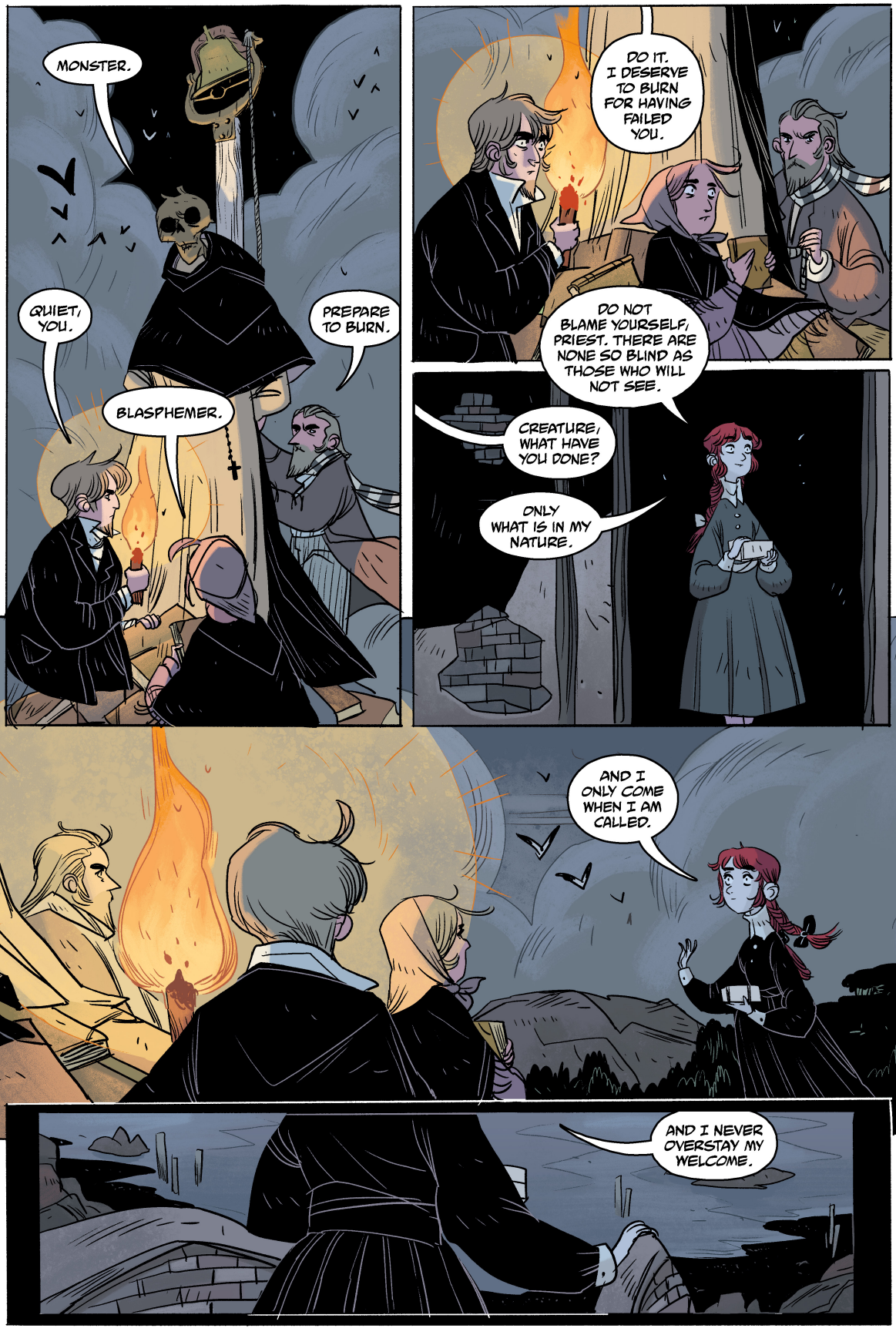

IN NÓMINE PÁTRIS, ET FÍLII, ET SPIRÍTUS--
HISSSS

HE'S A MADMAN! HANG HIM!


NO! BURN HIM!
FOOLS.
THAT YOU ARE SO EASILY DECEIVED WHEN THE DEVIL WEARS A PLEASING SHAPE.
WASN'T THAT OLD SANDRONI?
TRULY IT IS A NIGHT OF WONDERS.
IT'S TRUE.
the CROW'S HEAD
GOODBYE, OLD MAN.
BURN! BURN! BURN!


GOODBYE.
FOR THE HOUR GROWS LATE...
...AND MY TIME IS NEARLY DONE.
CHILD, PROMISE YOU WILL STAY WITH US FOREVER, FOR WE HAVE NEVER KNOWN SUCH--
!

THERE YOU ARE.
GASP!
MY SOUL.
SO MANY PRETTY THINGS.
SNAP


MONSTER.
QUIET, YOU.
PREPARE TO BURN.
BLASPHEMER.
DO IT. I DESERVE TO BURN FOR HAVING FAILED YOU.
DO NOT BLAME YOURSELF, PRIEST. THERE ARE NONE SO BLIND AS THOSE WHO WILL NOT SEE.
CREATURE, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
ONLY WHAT IS IN MY NATURE.
AND I ONLY COME WHEN I AM CALLED.
AND I NEVER OVERSTAY MY WELCOME.

ONE WISHED FOR AN HOUR OF YOUTH RESTORED. I GRANTED THAT TO ALL.
THE OTHER LONGED TO SEE THE WORLD, AND SO I HAVE GRANTED THEM ALL AN EXTRA HUNDRED YEARS...
...AND WINGS.
NO
HELP
PLEASE
HAVE MERCY

SO MUCH GIVEN FOR SO SMALL A PRICE.
LEONIDE...
DAUGHTER...
I AM READY, FATHER.
LET US AWAY.

LEONIDE.
YOU KNOW ME NOW, PRIEST.
NOW FORGET ME. YOU ARE BETTER OFF MOLDERING IN YOUR GRAVE.
IF ONLY IT COULD BE SO.
BUT NOW I AM ROBBED OF THAT PEACE. SO FLY--EVEN TO THE FARTHEST CORNER OF THE EARTH-- AND I WILL FIND YOU.
END OF PART ONE

"I had the best time reading this graphic novel. I never knew where it was going or how."
–Brian Michael Bendis

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–Patton Oswalt

"Yikes, what scary talent!"
–Geof Darrow

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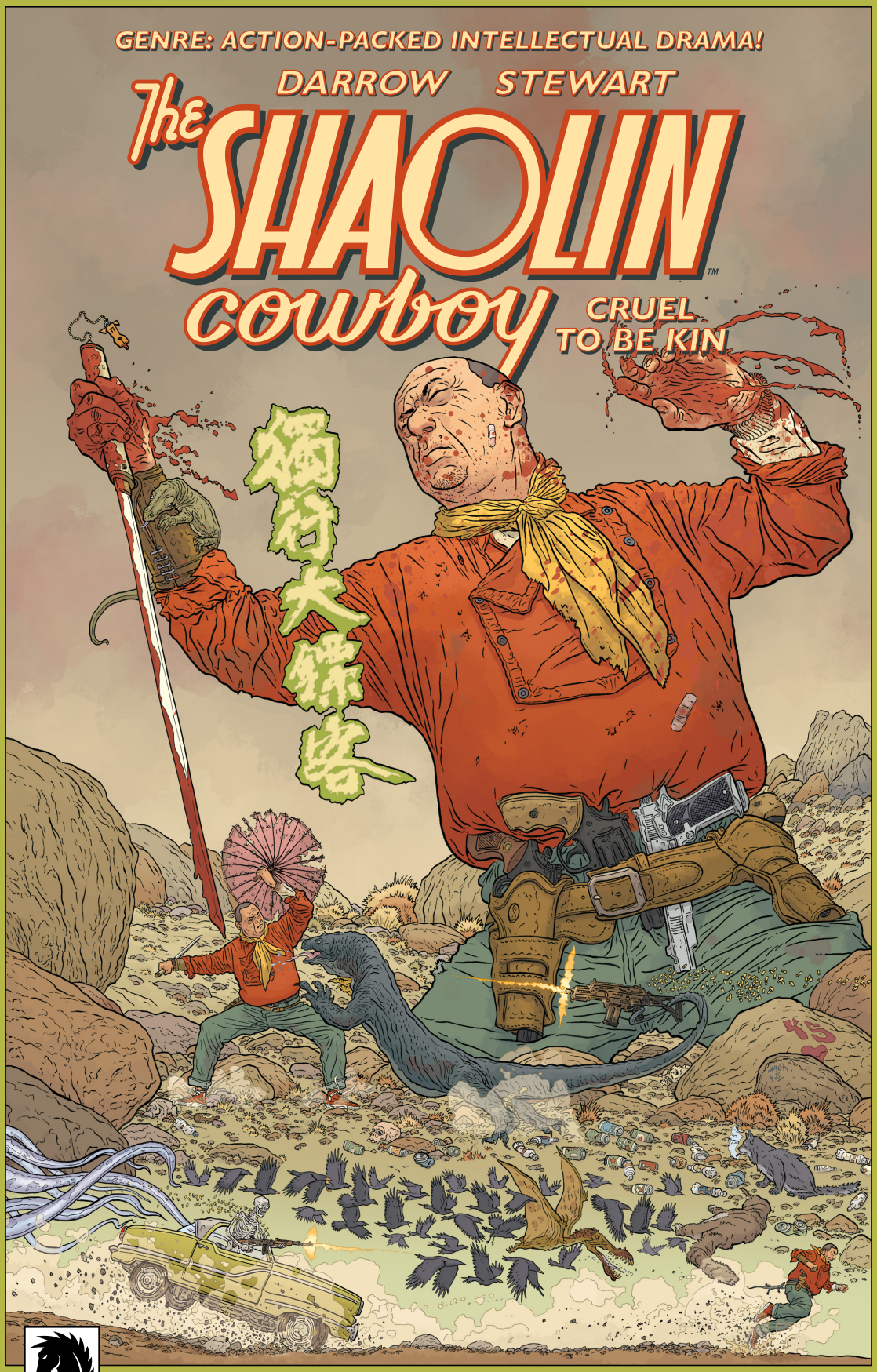

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When there's no more room in development hell . . .

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THIS HARDCOVER GRAPHIC NOVEL IS AN ALLEGORICAL THRILLER OF ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER, COLONIALISM, RELIGION, HISTORY, AND ADOLESCENCE TOLD THROUGH THE EYES OF A LONELY OUTSIDER.

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DARK HORSE BOOKS

HORSEPOWER

OCTOBER 2022

DARK HORSE BUILDS CHARACTERS

"Shopping malls are the greatest American monster" . . .

. . . Is how we'd start this piece, if *Dead Mall* was that kind of book. You know the kind: a highbrow affair that invites a certain level of intellectual pomposity. But it's not that kind of book. Really.

Dead Mall is just a simple horror comic about a sentient, predatory mall. A mall that can fold space, time, and reality and feeds upon its patrons. Patrons that it slowly transforms into hideous creatures. Cool-looking hideous creatures that do beautifully rendered bodily harm to our teen heroes.

Yup. Meat-and-potatoes horror stuff, really. No deeper meaning, no self-reflection about what malls mean to us, or meant to us as teenagers who needed a place to hang out. And certainly not what we see malls meaning to America as a whole, now that we're adults.

No. Nobody wants to get lectured about commercialism and suburbanization and the rapidly changing face of teenage socialization when they open a comic looking for those same teens to get good and murderized. Teenagers who break into the abandoned husk of a place that, for generations before them, stood as a kind of new town square, then old town square, and, in a few months, will probably be condos.

And maybe we're being coy. Because maybe *Dead Mall* does have some of this stuff on its mind, but we also don't want to scare you off. Because as much as we can criticize mall culture, satirize the shallowness of it, we both . . . really love malls?

It's something we discovered, working on this book. We—Adam Cesare, writer, and David Stoll, artist—grew up in very different parts of the country. Adam on Long Island, NY, land of a thousand malls and an accent that, no, you're not doing it right, with your impression. Funny, though. David in Phoenix, AZ, where an indoor mall is a refuge from the summer heat, which really can cook an egg on the sidewalk, or in your car, or anywhere without AC.

Because what we figured out when we compared New York to Arizona is that, as regional and *specific* as your mall can feel, there's something universal about these places.

Picture your mall with us. Come on. Close your eyes. Look. There's the food court. Someone's there, in a red chef's hat, handing out samples. There's the Spencer's Gifts; let's go giggle at the novelties on the back wall. There's the bookstore, with its terrible comic selection that you can still lose hours in before moving on to the Hot Topic, where you *definitely* didn't buy those pants.

Now open your eyes. Oh. Time's moved on. It's a dead mall now. We're standing here where the escalators no longer move. Where the fountain's gone all scummy. In a place we used to love. A place we put a lot of energy into. Energy that's still there.

Enough energy to make a monster.

—ADAM CESARE & DAVID STOLL

***Dead Mall* #1, written by Adam Cesare, illustrated by David Stoll, and lettered by Justin Birch, on sale October 26!**

FESTIVAL HC ON SALE 10/12

The Valhalla music festival commemorates a long-ago Viking slaughter, but when strange things start to happen, it seems the massacre may be far from over. When festivalgoers begin to disappear, and musicians find themselves playing mysterious and ancient songs as if possessed, the fans have to figure out what is going on before the festival site's haunting past comes back for blood. *New York Times* best-selling horror writers Christopher Golden and Tim Lebbon create a music festival to die for in this illustrated novel with artwork by Peter Bergting!

WHEN EVERYTHING TURNED BLUE HC ON SALE 10/19

Chiara lives her life afraid of many things, but most of all the fear of an undiagnosed illness. As she delves further and further down a rabbit hole of denial and disassociation, she will be forced to make a decision that will alter her life forever. Presented in English for the first time, Alessandro Baronciani's *When Everything Turned Blue* is the intimate story of one woman's journey toward acceptance and healing.

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